

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

15-261

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

July 13, 2004

To recognize Ms. Bernetta Viola Carroll Smith on the occasion of her 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

WHEREAS, Ms. Bernetta Viola Carroll Smith was born to the late Lemuel and Nannie Tolson Carroll in Cross Roads (now Nanjemoy), Charles County, Maryland on August 24, 1905;

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith attended Mt. Hope School in Ironsides, Charles County, Maryland, during which time the school consisted of two rooms and one teacher;

WHEREAS, upon her mother's passing, Ms. Smith's older sister, the late Irene Carroll Thomas reared her;

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith, at a very early age, joined the church and worshipped every Sunday; a practice she has followed all her life;

WHEREAS, upon reaching adulthood, Ms. Smith moved to Washington, D.C., where she met and married her late husband, Mr. Robert J. Smith, a native of Ahoskie, Hertford County, North Carolina;

WHEREAS, from this union, four children were born: Edward T. Smith, Yvonne E. Smith Prillman, Robert Smith, Jr., and Kathryn Marie Smith Waters;

WHEREAS, during World War II, Ms. Smith and her husband were of service to the United States in her time of need by volunteering as air-raid wardens, walking through the neighborhood during blackouts and ensuring that all lights were out;

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith has been a member of Mount Bethel Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. for over seventy years, where she has served on the Deaconess Board, sung in the Senior Choir, participated in the Missionary Circle and the Bible Study Group and volunteered wherever her assistance has been needed;

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WHEREAS, Ms. Smith has been of service to her community through her membership in the LeDroit Park Civic Association and her work with the Howard University Hospital Women's Auxiliary;

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith's childhood was a time when all members of the community were parents, and, accordingly, Ms. Smith having children who reflected this child-rearing ethic was named "Mother of the Year" in May 1963 by the LeDroit Park Civic Association;

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith is a woman of many interests, who loves to travel, having visited many of the United States, several Caribbean Islands and Canada, who is renowned for her baked beans and lemon pie, and who enjoys entertaining and dressing graciously; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Smith is blessed with many grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, who call her by many endearing names, including: Grammy, Grand-Ma, Bea, Grandma Smith, Aunt B. and Sweetheart.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may cited as the "Bernetta Viola Carroll Smith 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday Recognition Resolution of 2004".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia commends Ms. Bernetta Viola Carroll Smith on her 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.